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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/991,156

11/15/2001

Steven R. Fletcher

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04/26/2006

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EXAMINER

MARTIN, CIARA A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/991,156

Applicant(s)

FLETCHER ET AL.

Examiner

Ciara Martin

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to the application filed on November 15, 2001. Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 1-18 represent an integration messaging system.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Saulpaugh et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,590,334.

As per claim 1, Saulpaugh teaches a messaging system comprising:

a means for interfacing two or more parties to the messaging system (see c. 5, ll. 51-63; Saulpaugh discloses facilitating communication between clients and server in a message passing system);

a means for creating a customized business transaction comprising a plurality of data fields including an associated plurality of values, wherein a set of the plurality of values is associated with a set of tasks (see c. 5, l. 64 to c. 6, l. 23 and c. 6, ll. 40-63; Saulpaugh discloses creating data structures in a database with data fields and data values); and

a means for processing the customized business transaction according to the set of tasks associated with the set of the plurality of values, wherein when one of the set of

the plurality of values changes the processing means processes a one of the set of tasks corresponding to the one of the set of the plurality of values (see . 5, I. 64 to c. 6, I. 23 and c. 8, II. 35-59; Saulpaugh discloses creating data structures in a database with data fields and values, and extracting and modifying values from message objects according to requests).

As per claim 2, Saulpaugh teaches the messaging system of claim 1 wherein the means for interfacing comprises:

two or more communication channels (see c. 5, II. 51-63; Saulpaugh discloses an database with input and output coupled to a bus); and

an interface database connected to the two or more communication channels to interface the two or more parties to the messaging system (see c. 5, II. 51-63; Saulpaugh discloses an database with input and output coupled to a bus).

As per claim 3, Saulpaugh teaches the messaging system of claim 1 wherein the means for creating a customized business transaction comprises:

a means for associating a set of data fields from a plurality of data fields with the customized business transaction (see c. 6, II. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses message objects are associated with tasks) ;and

a means for associating a set of values from a plurality of values with the set of data fields, wherein a subset of the set of values is associated with the set of tasks (see c. 6, II. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses message objects are associated with tasks).

As per claim 4, Saulpaugh teaches the integration messaging system of claim 1, wherein the means for processing the customized business transaction comprises:

a means for continuously searching the set of the plurality of values to determine when one of the set of the plurality of values changes (see c. 9, ll. 13-23; Saulpaugh discloses carrying out operations to process transactions); and

a means for processing one of the set of tasks corresponding to the one of the set of the plurality of values that changed (see c. 9, ll. 13-23; Saulpaugh discloses carrying out operations to process transactions).

As per claim 5, Saulpaugh teaches the integration messaging system of claim 1 wherein the means for creating a customized business transaction further comprises:

at least one transaction table including a plurality of transaction data fields and a plurality of transaction values and one of the two or more parties inserts a set of transaction data fields from the plurality of transaction data fields and associates a set of transaction values from the plurality of transaction values to the set of transaction data fields to create the customized business transaction (see c. 5, ll. 51-63 and c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses a database and message passing using data fields associated with message objects);

at least one message including a plurality of messaging data fields and a plurality of messaging values and one of the two or more parties inserts a set of messaging data fields from the plurality of messaging data fields and associates a set of messaging values from the plurality of messaging values to the set of messaging data fields, wherein the at least one message is associated with the customized business transaction (see c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses message passing using data fields associated with message objects); and

a means for associating a subset of the set of tasks to a subset of the set of messaging values (see c. 6, ll. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses message objects are associated with tasks).

As per claim 6, Saulpaugh teaches the messaging system of claim 5, further comprising:

a means for appending two or more messages to the customized business transaction, wherein a designator is assigned to the customized business transaction and to the two or more messages to associate the two or more messages with the customized business transaction (see c. 6, ll. 24-39; Saulpaugh discloses receiving messages from tasks).

As per claim 7, Saulpaugh teaches an integration messaging system for creating and processing a customized business transaction, the system comprising:

an interface database including two or more channels for accessing the integration messaging system (see c. 5, ll. 51-63; Saulpaugh discloses an database with input and output coupled to a bus);

a global link hub comprising a plurality of tables having a plurality of data fields corresponding to a plurality of transaction parameters and a plurality of values, wherein a set of values from the plurality of values is associated with a set of data fields from the plurality of data fields to create the customized business transaction (see c. 6, ll. 40-63; Saulpaugh discloses an object management unit with data fields and data);

a process table including a core process and a plurality of processes, wherein a set of the plurality of processes corresponds to a subset of the set of values (see c. 5, l.

64 to c. 6, l. 23; Saulpaugh discloses a database and a plurality of tasks associated with message objects in database); and

a processing means to execute the core process to monitor the subset of the set of values and to execute one of the set of the plurality of process corresponding to one of the subset of the set of values when the one of the subset of the set of values changes (see c. 6, ll. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses each message object represents behavior of a resource).

As per claim 8, Saulpaugh teaches the integration messaging system of claim 7 wherein the global link hub comprises:

one or more transaction tables including a plurality of transaction values associated with a plurality of transaction data fields for creating the customized business transaction (see c. 5, ll. 51-63 and c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses a database and message passing using data fields associated with message objects);

one or more messages associated with the customized business transaction, the one or more messages including a plurality of messaging values associated with a plurality of messaging data fields and the set of the plurality of processes is associated with a set of the plurality of messaging values (see c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses message passing using data fields associated with message objects).

As per claim 9, Saulpaugh teaches the integration messaging system of claim 8 further comprising:

a means for assigning a designator to the customized business transaction and to the one or more messages to associate the one or more messages with the

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customized business transaction (see c. 6, ll. 24-39; Saulpaugh discloses receiving messages from tasks).

As per claim 10, Saulpaugh teaches a customized business transaction comprising:

one or more transaction tables including a plurality of transaction values associated with a plurality of transaction data fields for creating a customized business transaction (see c. 5, ll. 51-63 and c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses a database and message passing using data fields associated with message objects);

a message including a plurality of messaging values associated with a plurality of messaging data fields and a set of processes associated with a set of the plurality of messaging values to create the message to associate with the customized business transaction for sending and receiving a response (see c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses message passing using data fields associated with message objects).

As per claim 11, Saulpaugh teaches the customized business transaction of claim 10 further comprising:

two or more new messages appended to the customized business transaction for sending and receiving two or more responses (see c. 6, ll. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses sending and receiving messages according to client tasks); and

a means for assigning a transaction number to the customized business transaction and to the two or more new messages to associate the two or more new messages with the customized business transaction (see c. 6, ll. 40-63; Saulpaugh discloses generating a unique message id and associating messages with tasks).



As per claim 12, Saulpaugh teaches a method for implementing the customized business transaction of claim 10, the method comprising:

a process table including a core process and the set of processes corresponding to the set of the plurality of messaging values (see c. 5, l. 64 to c. 6, l. 23; Saulpaugh discloses a database and a plurality of tasks associated with message objects in database); and

a processing means to execute the core process to monitor the set of the plurality of messaging values associated with the set of processes and to execute one or more of the set of process corresponding to one or more the set of the plurality of messaging values when the one or more of the set of messaging values changes (see c. 6, ll. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses each message object represents behavior of a resource).

As per claim 13, Saulpaugh teaches an integration messaging system for completing a transaction between an originator and one or more subscribers, comprising:

an interface to interconnect the originator and the one or more subscribers to the integration messaging system via a plurality of communication channels (c. 5, l. 64 to c. 6, l. 23; Saulpaugh discloses a communication interface between clients and the message passing unit via I/O on the system bus);

a global link hub comprising:

a propagation system comprising a plurality of transaction tables, the plurality of transaction tables having a plurality of transaction data fields and a

plurality of transaction values wherein the originator inserts a set of transaction data fields from the plurality of data fields and a set of transaction values from the plurality of transaction values (see c. 5, ll. 51-63 and c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses a database and message passing using data fields associated with message objects); and

a messaging system comprising a plurality of messaging tables, the plurality of messaging tables having a plurality of messaging data fields and a plurality of messaging values wherein the originator or the one or more subscribers inserts a set of messaging data fields from the plurality of data fields and a set of messaging values from the plurality of messaging values for sending one or more messages (see c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses message passing using data fields associated with message objects);

a process database comprising a core process and a plurality of processes associated with a subset of the set of propagation values and a subset of the set of messaging values (see c. 5, l. 64 to c. 6, l. 23; Saulpaugh discloses a database and a plurality of tasks associated with message objects in database);

a processing means to execute the core process and to execute the plurality of processes (see c. 6, ll. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses each message object represents behavior of a resource);

a plurality of initiators associated with the subset of the set of propagation values and the subset of the set of messaging values, wherein when the originator or one of the one or more subscribers changes one of the subset of the set of propagation values

or one of the subset of the set of messaging values one of the plurality of initiators corresponding to the one of the subset of the set of propagation values or the subset of the set of messaging values initiates the core process to execute a one of the plurality of processes corresponding to the one of the subset of the set of propagation values or the subset of the set of messaging values that changed (see c. 6, ll. 40-63; Saulpaugh discloses a reference constant specifying the state of a message object and changeable data fields within each object).

As per claim 14, Saulpaugh teaches a method of transacting electronically using an integration messaging system, the method comprising:

accessing the integration messaging system via one of a plurality of channels (see c. 5, ll. 51-63; Saulpaugh discloses facilitating communication between clients and server in a message passing system);

creating a customized business transaction having a plurality of values associated with a plurality of data fields wherein a set of the plurality of values are associated with a set of processes (see c. 5, l. 64 to c. 6, l. 23 and c. 6, ll. 40-63; Saulpaugh discloses creating data structures in a database with data fields and data values);

processing the customized business transaction according to the set of processes, wherein when one or more of the set of the plurality of values changes a corresponding one or more of the set of processes is executed (see . 5, l. 64 to c. 6, l. 23 and c. 8, ll. 35-59; Saulpaugh discloses creating data structures in a database with

data fields and values, and extracting and modifying values from message objects according to requests).

As per claim 15, Saulpaugh teaches the method of claim 14, wherein accessing the integration messaging system comprises:

connecting to an interface database within the messaging system via a common protocol (see c. 5, ll. 51-63; Saulpaugh discloses an database with input and output coupled to a bus).

As per claim 16, Saulpaugh teaches the method of claim 14, wherein creating a customized business transaction comprises:

creating a transaction table comprising a set of transaction values associated with a set of transaction data fields (see c. 5, ll. 51-63 and c. 6, ll. 41-64; Saulpaugh discloses a database and message passing using data fields associated with message objects); and

creating one or more messages comprising a set of messaging values associated with a set of messaging data fields wherein a subset of the set of messaging values are associated with the set of processes (see c. 5, l. 64 to c. 6, l. 23 and c. 6, ll. 40-63; Saulpaugh discloses creating data structures in a database with data fields and data values).

As per claim 17, Saulpaugh teaches the method of claim 14, wherein processing the customized business transaction comprises:

inserting or changing a data in one or more of the set of the plurality of values (see c. 9, ll. 13-23; Saulpaugh discloses carrying out operations to process transactions);

searching the customized business transaction for a change in one or more of the set of the plurality of values; and processing one or more of the set of processes corresponding to the one or more of the set of the plurality of values in which the data was inserted or changed (see c. 9, ll. 13-23; Saulpaugh discloses carrying out operations to process transactions).

As per claim 18, Saulpaugh teaches a method of creating a customized transaction using an integration messaging system comprising two or more tables having a plurality of data fields and a plurality of values and a set of tasks, the method comprising:

accessing the integration messaging system (see c. 5, ll. 51-63; Saulpaugh discloses facilitating communication between clients and servers in the message passing system);

inserting a set of data fields from the plurality of data fields into at least one of the two or more tables (see c. 5, l. 63 to c. 6, l. 23; Saulpaugh discloses a database and creating data structures in the database);

associating a set of values from the plurality of values with the set of data fields wherein a subset of the set of values are associated with a subset of the set of tasks (see c. 6, ll. 1-23; Saulpaugh discloses associating message objects with tasks) and

associating at least one subscriber to the customized transaction, wherein when the customized transaction is processed the subscriber accesses the customized transaction using the integration messaging system (see c. 6, ll. 40-64; Saulpaugh discloses specifying a client with the message object).


**Conclusion**

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ciara Martin whose telephone number is 571-272-7507. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 - 4:00 with second Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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